



AMERICAN SECTION THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

HELD AT

ARYAN T. S. HALL, Headquarters, and at SCOTTISH RITE HALL,
New York, April 23 and 24, 1893.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

FIRST DAY.

MORNING SESSION APRIL 23.

THE Delegates assembled at the Hall of the Aryan T.S., 144 Madison Avenue, New York, at 10 A.M., on April 23, 1893.

Alexander H. Spencer, of Aryan T.S., New York, on behalf of William Q. Judge, the General Secretary, called the meeting to order and made the following remarks:

Ladies and Gentlemen: The Theosophical Society in America having provided in its Constitution for an annual Convention to be held on the fourth Sunday in April at such place as the Executive Committee shall designate, and the Executive Committee now in office having named the city of New York as the place for holding the Convention of 1893, I now call you to order on behalf of the General Secretary, whose voice unfortunately has failed him; and he, being unable to directly address you, proposes through me that we proceed with such preliminaries as are necessary to organize the Convention. These preliminaries are the nomination and election of temporary officers to preside while effecting the permanent organization. Mr. Judge has already nominated Mr. A. S. Brolley of Albany as Assistant Secretary.

Bro. Elliott B. Page of New York was nominated by Mr. Bridge as Secretary to the Convention.

Dr. A. P. Buchman of Fort Wayne was nominated by Mr. Temple of Pittsburg for Temporary Chairman; nomination seconded by Mr. G. D. Ayers of Boston. On motion the Secretaries were elected, and Dr. Buchman, being elected Temporary Chairman, took the chair.

CHAIRMAN: Brothers and Sisters: The ordinary method of procedure in

Theosophical Conventions, as I have observed them before, is to proceed immediately to business. The first business on the program is the organization and calling of branches and council.

The Secretary, Bro. E. B. Page, then called the branches, and delegates and proxies responded as follows:

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| ALAYA T.S. | - | - | - | - | E. B. Rambo, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| AMRITA T.S. | - | - | - | - | Miss Ethel C. Howe, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| ANNIE BESANT T.S. | - | - | - | - | Dr. A. P. Buchman, <i>Delegate</i> . |
| ARJUNA T.S. | - | - | - | - | Elliott B. Page, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| ARYAN T.S. | - | - | - | - | W. Q. Judge, <i>President</i> . |
| ATMA T.S. | - | - | - | - | M. S. Wadham, <i>Delegate</i> . |
| AURORA T.S. | - | - | - | - | E. B. Rambo, <i>Delegate</i> . |
| BLAVATSKY T.S. | - | - | - | - | J. Guilford White, <i>President</i> . |
| BOSTON T.S. | - | - | - | - | George D. Ayers, <i>President</i> . |
| BROOKLYN T.S. | - | - | - | - | Col. H. N. Hooper, <i>President</i> . |
| BULWER-LYTTON T.S. | - | - | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| CAMBRIDGE T.S. | - | - | - | - | Miss M. L. Guild, <i>President</i> . |
| CHICAGO T.S. | - | - | - | - | George E. Wright, <i>President</i> . |
| CINCINNATI T.S. | - | - | - | - | Dr. J. D. Buck, <i>President</i> . |
| COLUMBUS T.S. | - | - | - | - | W. B. Waggoner, <i>President</i> . |
| DANA T.S. | - | - | - | - | George E. Wright, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| DAYTON T.S. | - | - | - | - | Dr. J. D. Buck, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| DHARMA T.S. | - | - | - | - | William E. Gates, <i>President</i> . |
| ENGLEWOOD T.S. | - | - | - | - | George E. Wright, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| EUREKA T.S. | - | - | - | - | E. B. Rambo, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| EXCELSIOR T.S. | - | - | - | - | E. B. Rambo, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| FIRST T.S. OF JAMESTOWN, | - | - | - | - | Miss J. S. Yates, <i>Delegate</i> . |
| GAUTAMA T.S. | - | - | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| GOLDEN GATE T.S. | - | - | - | - | E. B. Rambo, <i>President</i> . |
| HARVARD T.S. | - | - | - | - | J. R. Bridge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| HOT SPRINGS T.S. | - | - | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| H. P. B. T.S. | - | - | - | - | Miss A. M. Stabler, <i>President</i> . |
| INDRA T.S. | - | - | - | - | George E. Wright, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| ISHWARA T.S. | - | - | - | - | Claude F. Wright, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| ISIS T.S. | - | - | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| KALAYANA T.S. | - | - | - | - | William H. Todd, <i>President</i> . |
| KRISHNA T.S. | - | - | - | - | Alexander W. Goodrich, <i>President</i> . |
| KSHANTI T.S. | - | - | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| LOS ANGELES T.S. | - | - | - | - | E. B. Rambo, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| MALDEN T.S. | - | - | - | - | L. F. Wade, <i>President</i> . |
| MEMPHIS T.S. | - | - | - | - | Alex. Fullerton, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| MUSKEGON T.S. | - | - | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| NARADA T.S. | - | - | - | - | Mrs. Anna L. Blodgett, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| OLYMPIA T.S. | - | - | - | - | Mrs. Anna L. Blodgett, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| PITTSBURG T.S. | - | - | - | - | Wm. C. Temple, <i>President</i> . |
| PLEIADES T.S. | - | - | - | - | E. B. Rambo, <i>Delegate</i> . |
| POINT LOMA T.S. | - | - | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| PRANAVA T.S. | - | - | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| PROVIDENCE T.S. | - | - | - | - | Robert Crosbie, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| RAMAYANA T.S. | - | - | - | - | George E. Wright, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| SALT LAKE T.S. | - | - | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| SAN FRANCISCO T.S. | - | - | - | - | E. B. Rambo, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| SANTA ROSA T.S. | - | - | - | - | Dr. J. D. Buck, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| SEATTLE T.S. | - | - | - | - | Mrs. Anna L. Blodgett, <i>Delegate</i> . |
| STOCKTON T.S. | - | - | - | - | E. B. Rambo, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| ST. PAUL T.S. | - | - | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| TORONTO T.S. | - | - | - | - | Albert E. S. Smythe, <i>President</i> . |
| TRIANGLE T.S. | - | - | - | - | E. B. Rambo, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| UPASANA T.S. | - | - | - | - | E. B. Rambo, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| WILLAMETTE T.S. | - | - | - | - | Mrs. Anna L. Blodgett, <i>Proxy</i> . |

The roll of Councillors was then called and the following responses were made:

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| FRANK I. BLODGETT, | - | - | Mrs. Anna L. Blodgett, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| MRS. M. L. BRAINARD, | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| WILLIAM THROCKMORTON, | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| MISS K. HILLARD, | - | - | <i>Present</i> . |
| E. O'ROURKE, | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| ALPHEUS M. SMITH, | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| MRS. M. M. THIRDS, | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| G. R. BOUSH, | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |
| MRS. FLORENCE PRATT, | - | - | William Q. Judge, <i>Proxy</i> . |

CHAIRMAN: The Convention is in session, and unless objection is made will proceed with the regular business. No objection being made, the first business in order is the election of a permanent chairman.

Dr. Buck was nominated for permanent chairman of the Convention, and on motion was declared elected. Dr. Buck being then escorted to the chair addressed the Convention as follows:

Brothers and Sisters: If I were seeking honors in the usual manner of man, my ambition would be completely satisfied by the event of the last moment. If I may be allowed to paraphrase a sentence of the "Man of Destiny", I should say: "Theosophists, the centuries look down upon you". It was long ago predicted by one who knew, that the twentieth century, into which we are now drifting, should see the acceptance of the teachings of Theosophy or the *Secret Doctrine* by the intelligent people of the Western world. Watching, as I have, the progress of this movement in America, and having thus far been present at all of its Conventions, it seems to me, as I stand here in this building conducting the work in which we are engaged, that this prediction is now being fulfilled. We enter to-day upon the deliberations of the seventh annual Convention of the Theosophical Society under most favorable auspices, more favorable than ever before. Let us, then, in our deliberations bear in mind the great and glorious work in which we are engaged. I believe that work of greater importance, of more far-reaching influence, was never engaged in by any human being.

I feel confident that in your deliberations you will bear this great fact in mind, and, with your assistance, forbearance, and coöperation, I am sure we can make this the most successful of Theosophical Conventions in our memory. (Applause.)

The Chairman then read a proposed order of business, which was adopted and is as follows:

1. Settlement of hours for business.
2. Reception of Foreign Delegates.
3. Reading minutes of Convention of 1892 or dispensing.
4. Addresses and letters from abroad and by Foreign Delegates.
 - (a) From President Olcott.
 - (b) European Section.
 - (c) Indian Section.
 - (d) Miscellaneous.
5. Appointment of Committees.
 - (a) Auditing.
 - (b) On Resolutions.
 - (c) On Nominations for 1893-4.
 - (d) On Parliament of Religions.
6. General Secretary's Report.
7. General Order of Business,
Including Addresses, Papers, Discussions, Resolutions, and Elections.

The hours of business were settled as 10 to 12:30; afternoon, 2:30 to 5:30 p. m.; evening, 8:15 to adjournment; for 24th two sessions, 10:30 a. m. to 12:30; 2:30 to 5:30 p. m.

On motion the Foreign Delegates were received and admitted as members of the Convention with the right to participate in all deliberations.

CHAIRMAN: Brothers and Sisters: I wish to present to you Brother Keight-

ley, who has just returned from India. He is like the one of old; he has met with many vicissitudes by sea and land; he has triumphed over all and is now present with us.

MR. KEIGHTLEY: Brothers and Sisters: I thank you most heartily for your very kind and generous welcome. I cannot express my pleasure to find myself once more amongst so many dear friends, who I find remember me far better than I hoped or had any right or reason to expect.

Chairman Dr. Buck introduced Mr. Claude F. Wright of London:

Mr. Wright is a Yankee by adoption, an Englishman by association, and an Irishman, thank God, by birth. He appears before this Convention as a citizen of the world,—in other words, as a Theosophist.

MR. WRIGHT: Dear friends: I can only say that I thank you most heartily for your kind and warm appreciation of myself, and I may say that I have met here in America what I have met in no other country which I have visited, and that is a kindly feeling and appreciation that is to be found only in my native country, namely Ireland.

The reading of the minutes of 1892 was dispensed with.
Foreign letters were then read to the Convention.

COL. H. S. OLCOTT'S LETTER.

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY,
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,

ADYAR, MADRAS, 23 March, 1893.

The Delegates of the American Section in Convention assembled:

BRETHREN:

During the past year you have been giving abundant proofs of the tireless zeal with which you have pursued the work of our Society. The results prove the truth of the oft-repeated statement of our Masters that their help is always given to the earnest and unselfish worker. We have but one danger to dread and guard against. This is the subordination of general principles to hero-worship, or admiration of personalities. I shall not excuse myself for frequent recurrence to this theme, for I am convinced that, if the Society should ever disintegrate, this will be the cause. The Masters wrote in *Isis* that "men and parties, sects and schools are but the mere ephemera of the World's day"; and following the precedent of their great recognized exemplar, Buddha Sakyamuni, they taught me to believe *nothing* upon authority, whether of a living or a dead person. I pray you to keep this ever in mind: and when I am dead and gone to recollect that the admission of the microbe of dogmatism into our Society will be the beginning of its last and fatal sickness.

Wishing you for the coming year a continuance of prosperity, and expressing a hope that I may sometime personally attend a Session of your Convention, I am fraternally and affectionately yours,

H. S. OLCOTT,
President Theosophical Society.

Bro. B. Keightley read the following:

From the European Section of The Theosophical Society to the Seventh Annual Convention of the American Section:

GREETING!

FELLOW THEOSOPHISTS:

Once more we are fortunate enough to be able to send you a delegate to represent our Section at your Annual Convention and so keep up the excellent precedent of former years established by H.P.B. At first it was somewhat in doubt as to whether we could send a personal representative this year, not from lack of good-will, but because of the necessities of the work. A number of our older members here have lately left Headquarters for work in distant lands, and as the pressure is always increasing we find ourselves more than ever tied to more immediate responsibilities.

Fortunately, however, our old colleague, Bertram Keightley, the General Secretary of the Indian Section, whom many of you already know, will be able not only to cement the strong personal tie between our two Sections, but also to link together the three great Sections of the Society by his presence among you.

Moreover, as we lent you Annie Besant for three months and so tied many a knot between us, we hope you will spare us William Q. Judge for our Convention in July to knit us still more closely together.

It is pleasant for us to think that you are meeting this year at the New York Headquarters, the establishment of which is undoubtedly one of the most prominent landmarks in the progress of Theosophy in the United States. We most heartily congratulate you on your growth and development during the past twelve months, and are convinced that the enterprise which is so characteristic of the American Section will ensure even greater success to your efforts during the coming year.

In Europe we have been forcing our way steadily and expanding in many directions.

A large quantity of literature has been put out, books, magazines, manuals, pamphlets, leaflets, and translations, and as many as five new periodicals in various languages. A revised edition of H.P.B.'s *Key to Theosophy* is in the press, and the first volume of the revised edition of the *Secret Doctrine* is already printed. As the labour of the revision of the latter work is exceedingly arduous and rests entirely on the shoulders of two of our busiest workers, the progress already made is considerable. The H.P.B. press is a great success, and its premises are already too small for it.

In addition to the efforts of our more experienced lecturers whose reputation extends far beyond the limits of the T.S., a large number of lectures have been delivered with success to Workmen's Clubs and other establishments by the younger speakers who are developing into capable lecturers. On the Continent a larger number of lectures than previously has been given, but there is everything to be done in this direction. If there were ten different languages and ten different currents of strong national prejudice to contend against in the United States, you would then realize one of our initial difficulties in this old country. On the whole, however, our lectures are always well attended, often packed. There is far less misrepresentation in press and pulpit. But even when there is misrepresentation by opposition speakers, who are generally of the clerical caste, the people flock to hear.

Our League of Theosophical Workers has done excellent work. The Working Women's Club in the East End of London, and the Crèche and H.P. B. Home for Children, are flourishing. A new Girls' Club and Crèche has been started in Manchester. At Headquarters the Branch has established a Soup Kitchen and a large and most successful Men's Club, called "The Lotus Club". Other minor activities are numerous. The Press Group yields a number of useful and intelligent pens. A broad web of organized correspondence has also been woven throughout the Section.

We are, therefore, progressing steadily, and though it cannot be said that the Section as such has shown any extraordinary development, it is nevertheless a fact that Theosophical ideas are getting very widely known and adopted, even though without acknowledgment. But there is no ground for grave uneasiness in the mere absence of acknowledgment, for the ideas are not our peculiar property; we are only transmitters. Though we regret the dishonesty of unacknowledged plagiarism, we rejoice that the yeast is working. There is, however, a great danger to guard against. Plagiarism is generally accompanied with a twisting of the original idea out of all shape, and the using of it either to bolster up tottering edifices or as a foundation on which to build erroneous constructions. We have to guard against this and boldly unmask the error wherever detected. As these erroneous constructions are to some extent being corrected in our own ranks as well as outside of them, it should be remembered that a back-boneless universalism that glosses over all errors is but the abuse of toleration, and that "a brave declaration of principle" is incumbent upon all lovers of truth.

It is true that our numbers are comparatively few when compared with the teeming millions that surround us, but there is no reason for anxiety merely on this account. Our force must be the force of the few, the spiritual force of quality, not the brute strength of numbers. Our power resides in our unbreak-

able union, in our rising above small things, in our never forgetting for one moment that we have a task of the most vital importance to carry out, and that the responsibility of its success rests upon our individual shoulders according to our several ability. In the T.S. no one has the right to excuse himself, no matter how much he excuses others; none of us have the right to be gentle to ourselves, however gentle we must be to our fellows.

To use Master's own words: "The instruments are few; more reason for them to be perfect".

For the Executive Committee.

G. R. S. MEAD,

General Secretary.

LONDON, April 7, 1893.

INDIAN SECTION LETTER.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE INDIAN SECTION T.S.,
GENERAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

ADYAR, MADRAS, March 23, 1893.

To the American Section of the Theosophical Society in Convention:

FELLOW-WORKERS IN THEOSOPHY: The Indian Section of our Society, and all its members, greet you most heartily in that spirit of brotherhood which is the essence of our movement. May this, your Seventh Annual Convention, be in every way a success. May the spirit of harmony and devotion pervade its meetings, and may it result in increased activity, in fuller mutual coöperation and understanding, not only among yourselves, but also with the rest of the Society.

In our Indian work it is found that the personal ties of friendship, formed and strengthened at our annual gatherings, constitute an important element of cohesion and mutual coöperation throughout the Section. Doubtless this is so also in the New World, and I venture to hope that this year's Convention will see the birth of many a friendship that will bind the workers of the Society together by ever-strengthening ties throughout lives to come. And this letter of greeting itself is but an earnest of our hopes and intentions in this respect.

The generous and unstinted financial support which both individually and collectively you have so freely extended to the headquarters of the Theosophical Society at Adyar, is justly appreciated and recognized throughout India. As a Section, doubtless this only concerns us indirectly; but as Adyar is in India, and forms also the headquarters of the Indian section, your generous aid demands our grateful thanks. We look hopefully forward to a time when the headquarters of the whole Society will in reality be its living heart and centre, sending out vitalizing spiritual influences, knowledge, and guidance to all its parts, as was the case in the days when our reverend teacher H.P.B. resided there.

The results of the recent tours made by our President-Founder and Mr. S. V. Edge in Bengal and the Northwest Provinces have been very satisfactory. Great satisfaction has been expressed throughout India at Colonel Olcott's retention of the office of President of the society. Many of the backward branches have been awakening to renewed activity, and we trust that our next year's report will show a great and encouraging improvement. But as our General Secretary will be present at your convention, it is needless to enter into any detailed review of our work. Its progress is steady, it proceeds on solid lines, and is being built up on a strong foundation. On the whole, the outlook to the future is encouraging, although the growth and progress of the movement here are hindered by many causes and conditions which are absent in the West. But East and West are undoubtedly drawing closer together, mutually influencing one another, and each supplying the other's deficiencies.

May this spirit ever grow and spread; may it inspire all our lives and work; may East and West each learn to know and appreciate the other more fully, so that our great object, the universal brotherhood of man, may be realized.

Very fraternally yours,

BERTRAM KEIGHTLEY,

General Secretary.

For the Executive Committee.

Secretary Page then read the following telegrams, which were ordered into the report of proceedings:

LONDON, April 23, 1893.

WILLIAM Q. JUDGE, *General Secretary, N.Y.*

European Section T.S. sends heartiest greetings to American Convention.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF, April 23, 1893.

WILLIAM Q. JUDGE, *General Secretary.*

Pacific Coast Committee sends greetings and loyalty to American Convention.

JEROME A. ANDERSON, *President.*

Mr. Rambo, referring to the California telegram, said:

MR. CHAIRMAN: On the Pacific Coast we have a headquarters and a Committee for work there. It is nothing separate from this Section, but simply because there is a head there and many who are vitally interested in the work, one of the members there at headquarters this morning sent to me the telegram in which the Theosophists of the Pacific Coast send their greetings to this Convention. It is in no manner a foreign section because it is on the Pacific Coast; we are simply a part of this Section, and by means of a telegram we meet here with you.

The appointment of Committees was then taken up. It was resolved that there should be seven members on the Committee on Resolutions, and that the Chair should appoint all the Committees were then appointed.

Auditing Committee: Alex. H. Spencer, Alex. W. Goodrich, and George E. Wright.

Committee on Resolutions: Louis F. Wade, Col. H. N. Hooper, Albert E. S. Smythe, William C. Temple, Anna L. Blodgett, Alexander Fullerton, Henry T. Patterson.

Committee on Nominations: J. Guilford White, Dr. A. P. Buchman, George D. Ayers.

Upon motion, the nomination of the Committee on the Parliament of Religions was held over until after the report thereon was made by Bro. George E. Wright of Chicago.

The Report of the General Secretary was then read on his behalf by Bro. Alexander Fullerton.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

This is the first large Convention of this Section held in the city of New York where the Theosophical Society started. A convention was held at Mott Memorial Hall in this City in 1886, when this Section was organized subsequently to the disappearance of the old Board of Control, but it was a very small one, it issued no report because of the utter absence of funds, and necessarily had but few delegates in attendance. But at that meeting our present Constitution was adopted, and became in fact the model in substance for the administration of the affairs of the other Sections. Much has happened since that year, and we have seen the influence of the movement grow and widen all over the globe as well as in North America. Not the least important event is the acquisition of a permanent Headquarters, a large house centrally situated, where at last the central offices are in proper and adequate surroundings. These Headquarters, it is true, do not in technical form belong to the Section, as that could hardly be compassed in consequence of peculiarities of the laws of the country. As property its title is in the Board of Trustees of the Aryan

Theosophical Society of New York City, but that does not take away from it any of its quality as our American Headquarters. And this Convention may be called its formal dedication to the uses and benefit of the movement in America.

The general business policy under which the Society's work has proceeded is the same as that which governs the Aryan T. S. That is, the endeavor is made—though of course not attained in full—to make all branches of the work self-supporting as far as possible. Deficiencies are met by donations. But the rule is to have Section officials and others pay rent and for needed printing. Thus the General Secretary of the Section hires in the building an office for his work, and other rooms especially devoted to the Section as a whole, as a reading room and small meeting room. In the same building the *Path*, a private Theosophical publication, also pays rent for its premises, and the Aryan Press, also private property though devoted to the work of the Society and possible only of continuance by reason of sincere devotion on the part of those who work in it, pays rent for its space. These with other tenants make it possible to carry on the Headquarters, the Aryan T. S. sustaining the burden of the mortgage and other expenses of the building. You need still to be informed that it never was and is not yet possible for the General Secretary to have proper quarters without the coöperation I have mentioned. Our fees and dues do not pay the expenses, as is obvious when you know that out of the dollar from each member per year we send back in printing and postage and paper nearly half. But no one of those who work and give begrudges either time, labor, or money: all is freely offered for the sake of the T. S. And it is this free offering and sincere devotion that make and keep us strong. I would ask you to remember the work of all these devoted ones. Such men as we have at work in the Headquarters without remuneration we could not have in the ordinary course without large means to pay usual and adequate salaries. And it is my earnest hope that at no time in the future shall we accumulate money for the purpose of mere hire of workers. Self-sacrificing devotion will always provide us with those who ask no more than to have a roof overhead, clothes to wear, and food to eat. Thus we may forever keep out the insincere who, for the sake of emolument, might pretend to a devotion they did not possess. I advert to this too for the reason that applications have been made to me by persons who desired the assistance of our funds to enable them to appear as our propagandists. The reply given was that we had no funds, and wanted for such purposes those who freely and sincerely offered themselves as others had before for the work of the Society, without hope of reward and with a knowledge that continued work for it—if they were devoid of personal means—would inevitably destroy worldly opportunities for profit and success. Of course those who, possessing means, have given themselves to the work without involving the Section in expense stand in a wholly different position.

An event of general interest and importance during the year was the lecturing tour here of Sister Annie Besant. This I am

able to report was eminently successful, as it raised a yet unstilled wave of interest and enquiry all over the country. It embraced the great cities East as far as was allowed by time, many of those on the line westward, and the whole of the Pacific Coast from Seattle to San Diego. Its management was undertaken by myself as an individual and not as Secretary, but its aim was to benefit the Society here, and having had the very greatest assistance and coöperation from members in all cities it was a complete success in every way. Advantage was taken of the public interest by sending out tracts in all directions, and in that work also members in general took part with zeal.

When the acquisition of a permanent Headquarters made possible the reception of H. P. B.'s ashes committed by Col. Olcott to the care of the American Section, an invitation was given to her American friends to provide a fitting receptacle, but the \$200 or so received were insufficient therefor. I myself made a design for the casket and frontal, and Mr. Clarence S. Luce, a well known architect of this city, kindly volunteered his services for the purpose of developing the plans and having all done in a workman-like and fitting manner. The cost of its execution was, however, so far beyond any possible resources of the committee that Mr. Luce most kindly arranged for only a part of the plan, contracted with artizans for the work, and supervised the final erection. The marble slab with its lettering and metal receptacle for the onyx casket containing the ashes can at any time be faced with the columns and entablature if funds are given. As you will all have an opportunity during our recess for inspecting the work, I need not further describe it, but an accurate account, with drawing, will probably shortly appear. While all intelligent Theosophists would discountenance any semblance of homage to relics, still more of miracle-working shrines, none but the unintelligent would object to respectful care of the remains of so eminent a person, even an Adept, as was H. P. B. We may well take satisfaction in the effective arrangement now made, one for which we are so largely indebted to the cultured skill and the generous aid of Mr. Luce. The cost of the receptacle absorbed all our fund, leaving nothing for the casket. I think it would be a gracious and graceful act if the members of and visitors to this Convention gave the casket. It would thus be a permanent memorial of the first real Convention held in the city of New York. The amount needed is \$85, and I have provided a box in this Hall wherein your offerings may be placed. Any which may be sent to me privately will be gratefully added to the fund.

It is our privilege again to welcome as Convention's guest Mr. Bertram Keightley, now General Secretary of the Indian Section. Bro. Keightley has, like St. Paul, been rescued from perils of land and perils of sea, to say nothing of perils from false brethren, and his appearance among us as delegate from both India and Europe, with a message of good cheer from each, is one of the pleasant features of this gathering. As we had present last year two members of the circle surrounding H. P. B. and in attendance upon her person—Dr. Keightley and Mr. Mead, so again is it the

case this year—Mr. Keightley and Mr. Wright. The American Section welcomes these visitors and workers, feeling that by their presence the link forged by H. P. B. with whom they dwelt so long is made stronger and closer.

Since last Convention and after being established in our present quarters at 144 Madison Avenue, I started a Reference Library in the Headquarters General Room above referred to, which has grown to the number of 113 volumes, including our magazines bound, our best books, and a copy of the *Mahabharata*, which last was presented by Bro. Bertram Keightley.

This is a Reference Library, as the Circulating Library in the General Secretary's office meets the wants of those who desire to take books out. The Reference Library is used very much, and in the same room are kept nearly all our periodicals. Here again the services of one of the staff of printers are given for the keeping in order and regulation of these books and periodicals. This promises to become a useful Library. We thus have in the Headquarters Building three Libraries; the General Secretary's Library, the Circulating, and the Aryan Library, embracing together some 746 books. The Circulating Library was started by a member of the Aryan Branch who devoted it to the General Secretary's office, and by a small charge for each book borrowed it has been able to buy new books and bind pamphlets and periodicals as well as books defaced by wear.

In a former report I drew your attention to the need of lecturers and described the work on the Pacific Coast. The latter is continued with success. The lecturer, in the last report made by the Treasurer of the Sub-Committee in San Francisco, is shown to have travelled 7,000 miles, visited 55 cities, given 86 lectures and 39 parlor talks, attended 27 branch meetings, distributed 18,000 leaflets, and secured 500 columns of newspaper reports about Theosophy. In order to do this work he had to give up his usual business, of course. Success and benefit have resulted to the Society.

Since April last Bro. Claude F. Wright, now well-known to many of you, and who was for three years in the immediate staff of H.P.B. at London, has devoted himself to the work of lecturing in the Eastern and Middle States. It was planned at first to have him visit only the Eastern sea-board, as time seemed to permit that only, but in consequence of the kind offer of a member of the Kansas City T. S. Bro. Wright was sent by me to Kansas City for the purpose of carrying on the work to be begun there on January 17th by Annie Besant. On the way out there he stopped at Pittsburg, Columbus, Cincinnati, St. Louis, and meeting Annie Besant at Kansas City he remained there for over one month, doing incessant work and at last bringing the Branch into excellent condition. From there he went to Memphis, Tenn., then to Chicago, and, at the request of Minneapolis, to the latter city. From there he visited Muskegon, Indianapolis, and Fort Wayne, keeping up the same plans and methods of work in all places. This has all done very great good in every direction, and again illustrates the importance of our lecture work. Bro. Wright's

tours supplement on this side what Bro. Griffiths is doing on the Pacific.

It is my duty to report that in India there has been executed and duly recorded a Deed of Trust by Col. H. S. Olcott, our President, constituting a Board of Trustees to which he has conveyed all the general property of the Society which hitherto has stood in his name, and that question is now satisfactorily settled for the future. The Trustees are Col. Olcott, William Q. Judge, Bertram Keightley, Geo. R. S. Mead, Sidney V. Edge, Tookaram Tatya, N. D. Khandalwala, and V. Cooposwamy Iyer. The three Sections are thus represented in the Deed by the three General Secretaries, and of course the management is in the hands of Col. Olcott. I am very glad to report this settlement to you, as the matter was one for anxiety for some years and would have been arranged long ago but for the great distances and the difficulty of coming to a general agreement by letter.

The Oriental Department started by me some time ago has remained in abeyance but has not been given up. The simple reason for the hiatus in publication is want of money, with many pressing needs of immediate importance. It will be continued. The services of the pandit in India have been dispensed with for the present through the same reason. But the influence of our Oriental Department spread to Europe, where the European Section's General Secretary started a similar department, and thus our plan has in fact been carried out elsewhere.

A matter arose at the last Ad Interim Convention which has raised a general question of policy in our administration. The Executive Committee disposed of the case and decided the question, but I wish to lay it before you and to ask your opinion and ratification. At that Ad Interim meeting, Bro. W. E. Copeland presented to the meeting a form of burial service to be used by Theosophists, with no intention, however, of imposing it on the Section. It was read also by myself. I saw no great objection to it as a form, but said it could not, nor could any service, be adopted by the Society. But afterwards it was printed with a title page bearing the name of our Sub-Committee and a statement in these words:

This Service is issued to supply readings and forms not inappropriate for burials and cremations, where the sentiments expressed may meet the views of relatives and friends, and as a guide for those unaccustomed to conduct such services. It is not issued by order or with the expressed approval of the Theosophical Society, all members having full freedom in such matters, but it is simply an expression of the Compiler's views without committing the Society or other members.—PACIFIC COAST COMMITTEE T.W.

This being seen by me, I notified the Pacific Committee that it was unwise and contrary to the spirit of our policy in general, and the Committee concurred, requesting the withdrawal of the title page and *imprimatur*. This was all acceded to by both Committee and author of the work. In my opinion, the Convention should ratify the action of the Executive Committee and pass some resolution giving expression to your views on the general question of approvals of works by direct statement upon them or indirectly by other ways. I hold that no officer or committee of the T.S. should

appear in print as publisher or approver of any general treatises, doctrinal expositions, or other controversial matter, and that they should confine their official names to diplomas, charters, blanks, general information about T.S., and the like. Following this policy I have never placed on my private publications my official title nor the office title, as I insist that if we follow any other policy we cannot keep the Society out of dogmatism or out of a reputation for dogmatizing. Every member has perfect freedom to issue over his individual name what books or publications he deems proper, and that privilege I have long exercised, but I have no right in any way, however slight, to attach the T. S. to any publication which gives private views on Theosophy. The case cited was not grave in its nature, but fully involved the principle and might have led to graver complications.

Since last Convention, the following 19 Branches have been chartered:

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| HOT SPRINGS T.S., | Hot Springs, Ark., | Chartered May 4, 1892. |
| SARASVATI LODGE T.S., | New Orleans, La., | Chartered May 23d. |
| KSHANTI T.S., | Victoria, B.C., | Chartered July 4th. |
| MOUNT ROYAL T.S., | Montreal, Canada, | Chartered July 11th. |
| CAMBRIDGE T.S., | Cambridge, Mass., | Chartered July 16th. |
| GRENADA LODGE T.S., | St. George's, Grenada, B.W.I., | Chartered Aug. 20th. |
| BLUE MOUNTAIN T.S., | Elgin, Oregon, | Chartered Sept. 19th. |
| INDIANAPOLIS T.S., | Indianapolis, Ind., | Chartered Oct. 13th. |
| WESTERLY T.S., | Westerly, R. I., | Chartered Nov. 11th. |
| ALAYA T.S., | Santa Ana, Calif., | Chartered Nov. 18th. |
| HARVARD T.S., | Cambridge, Mass., | Chartered Nov. 25th. |
| TOLEDO T.S., | Toledo, Ohio, | Chartered Dec. 26th. |
| KALAYANA T.S., | New Britain, Conn., | Chartered Feb. 8, 1893. |
| SANTA ROSA T.S., | Santa Rosa, Calif., | Chartered Feb. 21st. |
| DAYTON T.S., | Dayton, Ohio, | Chartered March 18th. |
| WACHTMEISTER T.S., | Chicago, Ill. | Chartered March 27th. |
| BULWER LYTTON T.S., | Rapid City, S. D., | Chartered March 27th. |
| ENGLEWOOD T.S., | Englewood, Ill., | Chartered March 29th. |
| COLUMBUS T.S., | Columbus, Ohio, | Chartered April 17th. |

In November last the Iron City T. S. and the Vishnu T. S., both of Pittsburg, Pa., consolidated under the name of the former, but in February the name was changed to the Pittsburg T. S. There are now 77 Branches upon the American roll.

The number of new members admitted during the twelve-month is 584. There have been 20 deaths and 47 resignations.

One of the most striking illustrations of the growth of Thosophy in this country is the increase of workers at the Headquarters. Less than five years ago the whole staff consisted of the General Secretary and his Assistant. The number now at work, excluding the *Path* office, is ten. If the latter be included, as might very properly be, then the number is twelve; and if the League is added we have thirteen. The Aryan Press has four workers, as the work increased so as to require them. But while all this shows the growth of interest it does not mean that the Society as a body has given me the means to pay for all these people; the money for the expenses necessary has been furnished me by certain persons few in number, whose names are not to be given. If we had to depend on fees and dues we could not have gone beyond the original number. So the workers give up all opportuni-

ity outside and work here for a mere support, and other equally devoted persons supply the means for having the workers. I doubt if any movement so young and as unpopular has ever called out more self consecration, more eagerness to serve upon a sum which permits no luxuries, no recreations or savings. The Society may well be grateful to such workers, who could be lightened of their load if we had further funds. To give you an idea of what is done silently by some I have mentioned, it will be enough to state that since last year four persons have given to the expenses of the work not permissible on the basis of the general fund the sum of \$1246. This sum is not in the Secretary's books, as it is given personally for use as needed, and not to be subjected to investigation or criticism.

The work in the General Secretary's office has lost none of its activity, though in the Propaganda department contributions have been small and the distribution of literature restricted by the limited time which the staff could spare from other duties. The number of tracts printed here the past year is 99,000; the whole number since the beginning is 430,000. But the Pacific Coast Committee have also printed during the year 80,000, and our valued co-worker in Cleveland 8,000, so that the year's total aggregates 187,000. But there has been also a large issue of pamphlets. Of *Theosophy the Religion of Jesus* the number now printed reaches 19,000; of *Death as Viewed by Theosophy*, 15,000; of *The Wilkesbarre Letters on Theosophy*, 14,500; of *The Indianapolis Letters on Theosophy*, 7,500. The Circulating Library, which held 223 books last year, now holds 249, and the whole number of persons who have used it has risen from 176 to 235. The *Theosophical Forum* has been issued each month, and 7 Branch Papers have been sent to Branches.

My report last year gave as surplus on hand of the Lectureship Bureau \$492.63. Since then \$128.40 clear have been contributed, making a total this year of \$621.03, of which \$133.70 have gone toward the traveling expenses of Bro. Claude F. Wright who has been lecturing for us since January on the Atlantic coast and as far inland as Minneapolis, and \$124 to the expenses of lecturers in the neighborhood of New York. The above sums do not, however, represent all the money spent in this work, since none of the lecturers receive compensation for their labors and the support of Bro. Wright is not provided by the lecture fund. Various brethren have contributed of their time and thought to this important work, and lectures have been given in New Haven, Bridgeport, and Philadelphia. A very much larger use of lectures has been in the weekly system of Brooklyn, New York, and Harlem, where since last autumn a public lecture has been maintained each Sunday evening. The distribution of Theosophical information thus effected has been of incalculable value. The Lectureship Fund on hand is now \$234.03. As the Lecturer for the Pacific Coast is maintained at no small effort by the local brethren, and as so much of the money pledged has not been paid, and as I have good reason to believe that the Lecturer on this side will be mainly sustained by specific offerings, I think it would be both a kindly and a fraternal act if this Convention authorized the assignment of a

portion of our surplus to relieve the over-burdened Theosophists on the Western slope, and I therefore propose the following Resolution:

Resolved, that the General Secretary be empowered to transfer the sum of \$100 from the Lectureship Fund in his hands to the Pacific Coast Committee for Theosophical Work, as a contribution towards the maintenance of the Pacific Coast Lecturer.

The Conventional year opened with a surplus in the treasury of \$987.23. So rapidly did this diminish that an appeal for aid had to be issued at the end of May. It is a subject of peculiar and inestimable satisfaction that this appeal was answered with unprecedented liberality. Brethren from all over the country sent gifts, and in all the months since there has been a continuous stream of kind help and kind words. The whole amount of donations from Branches is \$221, and from individuals of \$2291.14, so that the year closes with a surplus on hand of \$2210.64, a larger sum than ever before reported, and one which will probably relieve from the necessity of any appeal this year. Yet our only security is in the continued gifts spontaneously sent by members.

I do much regret, however, that so little has been contributed to the Propaganda. The amount this year is only \$222.49, whereas last year it was \$898.50. Through the General Secretary's correspondence opportunities are constantly arising where a supply of documents or the gift of one or two Theosophical books may constitute a centre of a spreading influence, one which should at once be assured. And yet the want of funds forces me to let such opportunities pass, thereby losing what might otherwise be a permanent force. Certainly the output of such documents should be an ever-increasing part of the office work, and it may be if brethren will supply the needed funds. The total contributions from the beginning amount to \$3027.94. The surplus on hand is but \$22.90.

And so in this year as in its predecessors, the General Secretary must conclude with thanks to the Section for the aid which has made his work possible, and with hope that that aid may be ever more spontaneous and copious than heretofore. The only limitations to usefulness are the limitations of means. As these are pushed backward by liberal hands the field and the harvest alike expand, and thus Theosophy will ultimately be enabled to reach and animate every dweller in our land.

WILLIAM Q. JUDGE,
General Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Balance forward..... | \$ 987 23 |
| Received from Branch dues..... | \$ 1,709 50 |
| " " Dues and fees at-large | 743 00 |
| " " Charter-fees | 95 00 |
| " " Branch Donations..... | 221 00 |
| " " Individual "..... | 2,323 64 |
| " " Sale of Reports and Addresses.. | 7 00 |
| " " Sundries..... | 100 78 |

| | | |
|---|---|--------|
| “ | “ Lectureship Fund loan refunded | 129 30 |
| “ | “ William Q. Judge, overpayment refunded..... | 20 00 |
| | | <hr/> |

\$5,349 22

DISBURSEMENTS. \$6,336 45

Remitted to India:—

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Diploma fees..... | \$292 00 |
| Charter fees..... | 95 00 |
| Balance Adyar Guarantee..... | 249 87 |

\$636 87

Travelling Expense—

| | |
|---|--------|
| American and European General Secretaries to Convention of 1892, \$150 05 | |
| Vice-President's European Trip.. | 150 00 |

300 05

| | |
|---|--------|
| Rent..... | 700 00 |
| Salaries..... | 734 50 |
| Stationery and postage..... | 360 90 |
| Printing..... | 871 13 |
| Reference Library..... | 46 63 |
| Incidentals, moving, and furniture..... | 341 92 |
| E. & O..... | 133 81 |

4,125 81

Surplus in hand. \$2,210 64

LECTURESHIP FUND.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Balance forward..... | \$492 63 |
| Donations 1892..... | 228 40 |

\$ 721 03

DISBURSEMENTS.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Lecturers' Expenses..... | \$257 70 |
| Contribution of Sarasvati T. S. returned..... | 100 00 |
| Refunded to General Secretary's Fund | 129 30 |

\$ 487 00

Surplus on hand. \$ 234 03

H. P. B. MEMORIAL FUND.

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Balance forward..... | \$ 26 25 |
| Donations 1892..... | 9 00 |

\$ 35 25

Surplus in hand. \$ 35 25

H. P. B. URN FUND.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Donations 1892 (in hand) | \$ 214 58 |
|--------------------------------|-----------|

SUMMARY.

| | |
|--|------------|
| General Secretary's Fund, Balance..... | \$2,210 64 |
| Lectureship Fund, “ | 234 03 |
| H.P.B. Memorial Fund “ | 35 25 |
| H.P.B. Urn Fund “ | 214 58 |

Total balance in hand. \$2,694 50

THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS were also received and applied as directed on account of the General Secretary.

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Adyar Headquarters | 31 00 |
| Olcott Testimonial..... | 159 75 |
| Sangamitta Girls' School..... | 12 50 |
| Mrs. Besant's Indian Tour..... | 2 00 |

The above report having been duly verified is hereby approved and recommended for adoption.

ALEX. H. SPENCER,
ALEX. W. GOODRICH,
GEORGE E. WRIGHT, } *Auditing Committee.*

The Report was accepted and the recommendations therein referred to the Committee on Resolutions.

CHAIRMAN: Brothers and Sisters: Inasmuch as we have a little more time before adjourning, and having run through with the eleven counts of the order of business, we come now to the Columbian Fair or Parliament of Religions Report, and if there is no objection I will call upon Brother Wright of Chicago to report upon this matter.

The Secretary then moved to return to the consideration of the Columbian Fair proposition and hear from Bro. Wright, which was carried.

Brother Wright then read his report, showing that the Theosophical Society had been assigned to the fifteenth and sixteenth days of September, 1893, in the Parliament of Religions at Chicago.

CHAIRMAN: Brothers and Sisters: This is certainly a very interesting report, and the outlook that is presented by it for the spread of knowledge of Theosophical doctrines is very flattering indeed. But there is something still lacking, and at this point in our proceedings Brother Judge, whom we have been saving for this special occasion, will make an announcement to the Convention. The object of the plan respecting the fair is to involve the Theosophical Society of the entire world; as they say in election times, the back counties have to be heard from; in this case, the foreign countries have to be heard from. Brother Judge will make the important announcement of the occasion. I think we will all regard it as such when made.

BRO. WILLIAM Q. JUDGE: Mr. Chairman and members of the Convention: You will have to stop breathing if you wish to hear me. I almost lost my breath when I heard Brother Wright say that the intellectual centre of the United States was moving from Boston to Chicago. He says that it is only temporary. Can you hear me down there at the end? (Ans.: Yes.) Brother Wright was to have explained this matter in full, but rush of blood to the head, caused by this change of the intellectual pole to Chicago, prevented him from explaining one or two little points in addition to what he has had to say on these matters. This Convention has not had charge of this movement. If the Theosophical Society, which extends over the world, is to be represented at the Chicago Fair, it should be by some official of the Theosophical Society itself; and as I am Vice-President of this Society, he and I took this matter up together, and the object of bringing it before you is to have the coöperation of the American Section in the matter. That is, for this Section to give to its General Secretary a direction to support the Vice-President, which will be conveyed by the General Secretary to the Vice-President. Dr. Buck says it might miscarry. Now the European Section will be asked to do the same thing; but as matter of fact this whole Fair is American. Everything is American now; and everything is to be Chicago, but American; so what we do will be very important and will give the cue to the other branches or Sections of the Society. And what is intended to be done is to have a committee appointed in this Convention for this session, who will report this afternoon in the other hall, giving us names for the Advisory Council. Brother Wright spoke of a Local Committee. There shall be a Local Committee in Chicago, of which he shall be chairman; that is, a committee of the Chicago Fair—or the World's Fair—itself. It will be a double-headed Committee; one-half male, and one-half female. You have nothing to do about that but pass it when it goes out to you. We have got the whole thing here. Then you have to direct me, and I direct you, and so on, to make up the advisory council, consisting of all the best men and women in the Theosophical Society, to be added to the local

committee: the object of the local committee's existence being that the managers of the Fair shall be able to put their hands on the persons responsible in Chicago, Mr. Wright being the first one. There are some in Indianapolis and Fort Wayne because these are called Chicago; that is, in the eye of the Fair people and the people in Chicago. [Laughter.]

Now, then, the chair will, as you have ordered him to, very soon appoint a committee; that committee has to consider this report. The reason it is so large is that it contains hundreds of names,—Indian, Irish, English, American, and French names. It has one or two little resolutions, all directing the General Secretary to support the Vice-President, and giving the coöperation and support of this Section to this matter, and asking for coöperation and support from India and Europe. So that the next thing is to hear from Col. Olcott, to whom I have telegraphed. Up to the other day we supposed this would not be arranged. Many Theosophists object to the use of such colossal terms as describe this Fair. But as it is in Chicago it goes. So the committee will tell us as soon as they can, for we want to report this in the grand hall we have down here and before the public. We want you all to hear this report. Mr. Keightley is going to be nominated as chairman. He is Secretary of the Indian Section; and a great man. In fact, nobody but Brother Keightley and one or two Boston people can read this report. (Reads papers concerning attendance of Mme. Besant at Congress.)

Bro. Judge then read translation of telegram from London:

LONDON, 23d. In reply to your telegram, the European Section will give its approval and support to the plan for representing the Theosophical movement at the World's Parliament of Religions at Chicago. The dates will suit, and Mrs. Annie Besant will attend there on her way to India.

LETTER PLEDGING INDIAN SECTION

was then read by Bertram Keightley.

HEADQUARTERS THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN AMERICA,
144 MADISON AVENUE,

NEW YORK, April 22, 1893.

To the Vice-President of the Theosophical Society, acting in America on behalf of the Theosophical Society and the President thereof, the latter being absent in India, and to the American Section of the Theosophical Society:

DEAR SIRS AND BROTHERS: In my capacity as General Secretary of the Indian Section, and being here at your Convention as representative of that Section, I have participated in the deliberations of your committee in respect to the Theosophical Congress at the coming World's Fair in Chicago, and in my said capacity as General Secretary of the Indian Section I offer you on behalf of that Section its endorsement, coöperation, and concurrence in your effort to aid in making the said Theosophical Congress a success, and shall at once notify my Section that there is to be held in Chicago a Theosophical Congress on the 15th and 16th of September under the auspices of the World's Congress Auxiliary of the World's Columbian Exposition.

Fraternally yours,

BERTRAM KEIGHTLEY,

General Secretary Indian Section T.S.

CHAIRMAN: It remains now in regard to this matter only to appoint a committee on the part of this Convention on the representation of the Theosophical Society in the Columbian Exposition, to report in the Scottish Rite Hall this afternoon or evening.

The chair then appointed as the Committee on the Parliament of Religions matter:

Bertram Keightley, *Chairman*; Julia S. Yates, Henry Turner Patterson, Marguerite L. Guild, Col. R. E. Whitman, U.S.A., Charles T. Strauss.

A vote of thanks, moved by Bro. B. Keightley, to Geo. E.

Wright for his work in respect to the Religious Parliament, was then enthusiastically passed. Resolutions on various matters were then offered and referred to the Committee.

The Secretary then read the report of the League of Theosophical Workers, which was ordered on file.

The Chairman called the attention of the Convention to a suggestion made by Bro. Geo. E. Harter as to the desirability of appreciating the needs of the movement in every direction for funds and the irregular manner in which funds come to the General Secretary for the purposes of propaganda. He proposes to establish classes of individuals who will agree to give a definite amount each month, so that the General Secretary may have some funds on which he can rely. They are to be classes of 300 who will give \$3 a month, or classes of 500 who will give \$1 a month. I think the Convention should consider it.

The Chairman called attention to a pin of the Theosophical Society, sent by Bro. G. E. Harter of Dayton, O.

On motion, Bro. Harter's suggestion with regard to the raising of a fund was referred to a committee, and the matter respecting the pin was left unconsidered.

BRO. RAMBO: Mr. Chairman: I am requested to present a resolution to this Convention which the General Secretary has among his papers, authorizing the Executive Committee in their discretion to hold the annual meeting of this Section on such dates as might seem most convenient to them. The Constitution now provides that this Convention shall be held on the 4th Sunday in April. This resolution would look forward to leaving the date as well as the place in the hands of the Executive Committee. I move the resolution be referred to the Committee on Resolutions for report.

The motion was seconded and carried.

The Convention adjourned to meet at 2:30 P.M.

SECOND SESSION.

APRIL 23d, AT SCOTTISH RITE HALL.

Dr. Buck in the chair made following remarks:

BROTHERS AND SISTERS: We have first to take into consideration the question concerning the World's Fair Auxiliary Congress of Religions—Columbian Exhibition, which is to be an exposition and comparison of the philosophies and creeds of the world. A very exhaustive report was made this morning by the local committee of the movement, represented by Mr. Wright of Chicago. A committee was appointed this morning to report upon the subject this afternoon, and to determine what action this Convention, through its Committee, desires to take. You will now listen to the report of the chairman of the committee, Mr. Bertram Keightley of London, with regard to the representation of the Theosophical movement in this World's Congress of Religions at the Chicago fair.

Mr. Keightley then read the report, which on motion was adopted and the committee discharged.

Upon the suggestion of the General Secretary Mr. Keightley offered a supplementary resolution necessary to carry into effect the resolution just adopted.

The resolutions recommended by the Committee and adopted are as follows:

RESOLVED, first, that this Convention hereby approves the action taken by the General Secretary and the members in Chicago in respect to the said Congress, and accepts for the Theosophical Society the appointment made for the said Society of dates for its said Congress as set forth in the letters from the officials of the said Fair as read: namely, September 15 and 16, 1893.

RESOLVED, that the General Secretary be and he is directed to communicate to Col. H. S. Olcott, President of the Theosophical Society, these resolutions in pursuance of the correspondence which has been had between them respecting this made, and to further express to said President Olcott the hope of the American Section that he may be able to personally attend and participate in the said Congress.

RESOLVED, that this Convention hereby approves and adopts the names submitted for the Local Committee and Advisory Council for the said Congress by its present committee, and directs the General Secretary and the said Local Committee to take all needful further steps in the matter. [The said Local Committee and Advisory Council were then incorporated in the report.]

RESOLVED, that this Convention fully approves the decision of the Vice-President in making his application to have the Theosophical Society represented on the question of religion and ethics rather than those relating to psychic laws and phenomena; but at the same time it is hereby declared that this action and the representation of the said Society in the said Religious and Ethical Congress in no way commit the Theosophical Society or any of its members to any form of religious belief nor to any creed or dogma.

RESOLVED, that the General Secretary of this Section is hereby directed to issue a call for subscriptions toward defraying any necessary and proper expenses incidental to the Theosophical Congress above referred to, including expenses attendant on travel from foreign countries or delegates to the Congress.

Miss Katherine Hillard then took the floor and read a paper on "Hurry", followed by Geo. D. Ayers of Boston on "The Masters". Then J. Ransom Bridge read a paper on "The Gates of Gold". Miss E. M. Daniell of the Aryan T. S. then read a paper on "Karma" by Dr. Allen Griffiths of California.

Bro. B. Keightley then addressed the Convention at length on "India and the Theosophical Society".

At this point the hour of adjournment was reached and the Chair declared the proceedings over until 8:15 p. m.

THIRD SESSION.

APRIL 23d, AT SCOTTISH RITE HALL.

The Delegates assembled at 8:15 p. m. and with the visitors crowded the body of the Hall. About 800 persons were present. Dr. Buck took the chair to open the meeting, and then, as he was on the program for a lecture, called Dr. A. P. Buchman to the chair.

Dr. Buck read his paper on "The Antiquity of Man", using a chart in illustration, and then reassumed the chair.

Bro. William Q. Judge then addressed the Convention on "The Foundation and Object of the Theosophical Society". He was followed by E. B. Rambo, who read Dr. J. A. Anderson's paper on "Reincarnation". Claude F. Wright followed upon the subject of "Reason and Religion". A vote of thanks was then passed to Miss Alice M. Judge for her performance at the organ during the sessions in Scottish Rite Hall. Convention thereupon adjourned until 10:30 a. m. next day.

FOURTH SESSION.

APRIL 24th, AT ARYAN T.S. HALL.

The proceedings opened with Dr. Buck in the chair. The Hall was filled. Reports and Resolutions were taken up. The Auditing Committee reported that they had examined the Cash book and Bank book; that they were correct, and that the balance reported on hand was in Bank to the credit of the American Section.

The Nominating Committee's report was then received and Committee discharged.

On motion the Secretary of the Convention, Bro. Elliott B. Page, was directed to cast the vote of the Convention for William Q. Judge as General Secretary for the ensuing year, whereupon he did so and Bro. Judge was declared General Secretary.

On motion of E. B. Rambo the name of Alexander Fullerton was substituted for that of E. Aug. Neresheimer as Treasurer, and the Secretary of the Convention was directed to cast the ballot of the meeting for Mr. Fullerton as such Treasurer; this was then done, and Bro. Fullerton declared Treasurer for the ensuing year.

On motion the following were elected as *Executive Committee* for next year:

General Secretary, *ex officio*, Elliott B. Page, Alexander Fullerton, Henry T. Patterson, Alpheus M. Smith, Frank I. Blodgett, and Robert Crosbie.

The report of names for the Councillors for next year was adopted and the following declared elected:

Dr. J. W. B. La Pierre, Edgar A. Edwards, Allen Griffiths, Wm. Throckmorton, Col. R. E. Whitman, U. S. A., Anna Lowell Dunbar, F. E. Titus, Rev. W. E. Copeland, Mrs. V. S. Beane, Mrs. M. M. Thirds, Mrs. Florence Pratt, Hessay W. Graves, Mrs. A. L. Doolittle, Mrs. E. M. Selden, Clarke Thurston, Miss L. A. Off, Mrs. M. L. Brainard, Dr. C. J. Lopez, Miss K. Hillard, Dr. J. Philip Knoche, Edw. O'Rourke, J. C. Slatter, Mrs. Erma E. Gates, Mrs. S. A. Harris, Capt. Geo. R. Boush, Mrs. Mary H. Wade, J. C. Haskell, Miss M. K. Slater, Mrs. A. R. Read.

The Committee on Resolutions reported, and the following resolutions were adopted and Committee discharged:

WHEREAS, the growth and reputation of the Theosophical movement have caused persons in various parts of the country to advertise themselves as teachers of Theosophy and to offer, as such, tuition in Occultism and Occult arts for a money consideration; and

WHEREAS, the Founders and leaders of the said movement and of the Theosophical Society have uniformly declared that genuine instruction in Occult study can neither be given nor received upon condition of pay, such instruction being possible only to the spiritually qualified, and never imparted for gain;

THE THEREFORE RESOLVED, that this Convention hereby declares its disapproval and condemnation of any persons who, being members of the Theosophical Society, claim or offer to teach knowledge of Occultism, the Occult Arts, or of any Occult practice or the means for performing any phenomena, or to give training or teaching in any Occult or psychical development, for payment to be made to such asserted teacher for such teachings.

RESOLVED, that any member of the Theosophical Society offending against

the spirit of the foregoing Resolution thereby proves his or her unfitness for membership, and is to be justly regarded as not in conformity with the nature, spirit, and teachings of true Theosophy.

RESOLVED, that the General Secretary be empowered to transfer the sum of \$100 from the Lectureship fund in his hands to the Pacific Coast Committee for Theosophical work as a contribution towards the maintenance of the Pacific Coast Lecturer.

RESOLVED, that no Officer or Committee of the T.S. should appear as such in print as publisher or approver of any general treatise, doctrinal, expository, or other controversial matter, but that they should confine their official names to diplomas, charters, blanks, general information about the T.S., and the like.

The Report of the Committee on the World's Religious Congress at Chicago was finally taken up and adopted, and the Committee discharged. Bro. Geo. E. Wright of Chicago was then given the floor, and read to the Convention the Preliminary Bulletin to be issued by the Local Committee to Theosophists respecting the Parliament of Religions. On motion of B. Keightley the General Secretary was directed to print for circulation the preliminary explanatory address to the Convention by Bro. Geo. E. Wright respecting the Parliament of Religions and the T. S.

Bro. B. Keightley then read an instructive paper on "The Necessity for the Study of Metaphysic". After this a paper on "The Meaning of the Lord's Prayer" by Bro. W. E. Copeland of Oregon was read by title. Spirited discussion then ensued upon Bro. Keightley's paper, carried on by Henry Frank, Geo. D. Ayers, Wm. E. Gates, Louis F. Wade, Mrs. Blodgett, J. Guilford White, Claude F. Wright, William Q. Judge, and Bertram Keightley.

At this point the members assembled on the front steps where a large photograph was taken of the Convention, after which they reassembled in the Hall. The subject of Branch Work was then taken up and discussed by J. Guilford White, H. T. Patterson, Claude F. Wright, E. B. Rambo, Col. E. B. Hooper, B. Keightley, L. F. Wade, M. Faulding, S. F. Hecht, Dr. Day, Mrs. A. L. Blodgett, Dr. T. P. Hyatt, Miss A. M. Stabler, M. S. Wadham, Mr. Percival, Miss E. B. Hooper, A. E. S. Smythe, William Q. Judge, Dr. Buck. The system of associate members and visitors' tickets was explained by Claude F. Wright; advertising proposed; Branches advised to hold open meetings; members advised to study Theosophy; advised to spread philosophy and ethics prominently, and keep occultism and psychic matters in the background. The discussion was very profitable and interesting.

On motion of Bro. J. G. White a vote of thanks was passed to Bro. A. S. Brolley for his voluntary work as stenographer to the Convention, and to the ladies and gentlemen of the League who had made the reception on the 22d April a success.

This brought the session to the hour of adjournment, and the Chairman declared the Seventh Annual Convention adjourned *sine die*.

The delegates remained after the adjournment to listen to an address by B. Keightley on the study of the Secret Doctrine.

On Saturday the 22d of April a reception was given by the

General Secretary at the Aryan Hall, 144 Madison Ave., to the visiting delegates and members. It was managed by the ladies and gentlemen of the League, and was a complete success. The hall was full, and every one was made acquainted with every one else. Music and light refreshments were added, and it all contributed much to the harmony and success of the Convention.

DEPOSITION OF THE ASHES OF H. P. B.

Contributions towards the Depository having sufficiently accumulated to enable the General Secretary to adopt the essential part of the original design, it was executed in time for the assembling of Convention. The slab of Sienna marble, about 4 feet by 4½, has an aperture near the top of some 18 by 12 inches, through the glass frontal of which may be seen a highly-polished bronze box, upon the floor whereof rests an onyx casket standing upon four glass balls and containing the ashes of H. P. B. Over the aperture is in bronze the initial letter of the Sanscrit alphabet—"Aum", and below it the full name Helena Petrovna Blavatsky; under this again the dates 1831, 1875, 1879, 1891, indicating respectively her birth, founding the T.S., removal to India, death. Below is the seal of the Society. The lettering is all in bronze. The pillars and entablature of Egyptian design which were originally contemplated can be affixed at any time when funds are given.

On Saturday evening, April 22d, about two hours after the artisans had completed their work, and during the reception given to delegates and F.T.S. in the Aryan Hall, the General Secretary, accompanied by the seven brethren whose names appear upon the certificate, repaired to the Headquarters Room, to the East wall of which the Depository is attached, and in their presence reverently deposited America's share of the ashes in the onyx casket. No ceremonial was used. By the same hands the casket was duly placed in the bronze receptacle.

Immediately afterwards Mr. Alex. H. Spencer gave notice from the platform of the Aryan Hall that the ashes were in place and that the Depository was open to inspection by the assembly. Through the rest of the evening it was viewed with interest and respect by groups from the Hall below. The following certificates witness to the due deposition of the ashes:

THIS DOCUMENT, signed in triplicate, certifies that the ashes of the body of Helena Petrovna Blavatsky, deceased, were divided by the undersigned into three parts on the 26th day of July, 1891, at London, England, and that one part of the said three parts is confided to the custody of the Headquarters Staff at New York, U.S.A., another to the Headquarters Staff at London, and the third and larger part is in custody of the President-Founder of the Theosophical Society at Adyar, India. Signed at London, July 26th, 1891.

H. S. OLcott,
ANNIE BESANT,
WILLIAM Q. JUDGE.

NEW YORK, April 22, 1893.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, hereby certify that we were present this day, April 22, 1893, at the hour of 9.10 p.m., and in each other's presence saw William Q. Judge deposit in an onyx casket the portion of the ashes of H. P. Blavatsky

described in the foregoing document, and that the said William Q. Judge then locked the said onyx casket containing the said ashes within the metal case for the same on the third floor of 144 Madison Avenue, New York City, in the Headquarters room of the American Section Theosophical Society.

J. D. BUCK,
ALEXANDER FULLERTON,
E. AUG. NERESHEIMER,
ELLIOTT B. PAGE,
A. H. SPENCER,
BERTRAM KEIGHTLEY,
CLAUDE F. WRIGHT.

ABSTRACT OF REPORTS FROM BRANCHES.

DANA T.S., Sioux City, held fifty-four meetings, mostly open, and latterly advertised them with good effect. Carefully prepared abstracts of the articles read were published in the next day's papers. The Branch put an advertisement offering free Theosophical literature in 930 country newspapers, and respondents received letters, tracts, book-lists, and "Information for Inquirers". At the public meetings tracts are always on hand for distribution. A number of Theosophical works have been secured for the Public Library, and two Theosophical magazines are maintained on its tables by members. The Branch Library has fifty-two books and takes five magazines. Some charitable work has been done. There are now nineteen members, and the general prospects are good.

MUSKEGON T. S. has held regular weekly meetings through the year, the average attendance being five-eighths of the membership resident. Social gatherings for free inquiry have been successfully instituted, and the earnest work of the Branch is telling upon public thought. A standing notice of meetings is kept in a daily paper, and topics of discussion are regularly announced. Present membership is twelve.

BANDHU T. S., Santa Cruz, Calif., though not increasing much in size, has done active work by public lectures and press articles, and by papers read before an important literary society. The Branch has adopted the same mode of conducting meetings as has the Golden Gate T.S., and with like good effect.

HOT SPRINGS T. S., Ark., held eight informal meetings before its charter in May, and thirty regular meetings afterwards, besides twenty-five class-meetings on a different night. One new member has joined, and there have been twenty-five inquiring visitors. Cards announcing meetings are displayed in the hotels, and the press prints items. The Library has five bound books and some small publications. Few in numbers, the Branch is rich in zeal.

KRISHNA T.S., Philadelphia, has kept up weekly meetings during the active season, and several public lectures were given last spring and will be this. Four new members have joined, the present number being thirty-six. The Library contains about 150 books, all constantly in use.

TORONTO T. S. has not grown rapidly, and removals have reduced to fourteen, with four Associates. Even the warmest sympathizers often shrink from the decisive step of joining, so that the membership hardly represents the influence. The Library contains fifty books and the *Path*, which also is on the tables of the Public Library. Newspapers have given the subject much attention, and several abusive attacks have been answered. One active editor sends Press Scheme and other matter all through the country. A generous member has provided means for a series of public meetings for informal discussion, conversation, and the distribution of documents, thus accomplishing great good, and on Sundays a few members meet for study of the Gospels from a Theosophic and esoteric view-point. In so ultra-Protestant a community this is found very useful, meeting Christians on their own ground. The fifty-two regular weekly meetings are open, the *Key* and *Esoteric Buddhism* have been studied, and various papers read.

OLYMPIA T.S. has held forty-four regular meetings and has had lectures from Mrs. Blodgett, Dr. Griffiths, Mr. Rambo, and Mrs. Besant. Small resources keep the Library down, and the roll has not been much enlarged, but there is determination to maintain both organization and effort.

NARADA T.S., Tacoma, has lost heavily by removals and its present membership is but twenty-one. Meetings were 107, of which fifty-six were public, and there were five lectures. The Library contains sixty-seven books and fifty copies of magazines. Besides sustaining expenses, the Branch contributed \$102 to the Pacific Coast Lecture Fund, all representing self-denial, the general financial depression having greatly decreased incomes.

POINT LOMA T.S., San Diego, no longer holds public meetings, but at the hour when the other Branch meets sends out kind and helpful thought. The Library stands as in last year, and but one new member has joined.

GOLDEN GATE LODGE T.S., San Francisco, elected seventeen new members and admitted five, lost one by resignation, thirteen by demit, and two by death, now having fifty-three. The Free Library at the Headquarters contains 310 Theosophical books and 114 miscellaneous, including the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. Nearly 3000 books were lent during the year. The Reading Room is daily open from 10 to 4 and from 6 to 7. Branch meetings were held fifty-two times. The first six months were devoted to systematic study, the last to a new order of exercises as detailed in *Path*. Every Sunday evening at Red Men's Hall an open meeting is held, all well-attended, some over-crowded. "The Children's Hour" continues a success, and is still managed by the League of Theosophical Workers. These are forty-seven children on the roll.

EXCELSIOR T.S., San José, Calif., met every Sunday during the year, the public attendance being very small, but the Branch members no less determined to work. Miss M. A. Walsh was made Director of the meetings, topics were assigned to different members, and papers read. Her help has been invaluable. The Branch has lost three members and gained two: present number is eleven.

TRIANGLE T.S., Alameda, Calif., has seven members and a small Library which includes *Path* and *Lucifer*. Open meetings are held weekly and have been well attended by visitors. When there are no visitors the principles of Theosophy are applied to the personal needs of each member. Much aid has kindly been given by the Branches across the Bay. The library has been enriched by *The Secret Doctrine*, a present from a visitor.

EUREKA T.S., Sacramento, Calif., holds a public meeting every Sunday evening in a Hall, and, though the audiences are small, Theosophy is much talked of in the town and is becoming respectable. There have been three additions and one withdrawal, making present membership eighteen. General prospects brightening.

KALAYANA T.S., New Britain, Conn., was only chartered in February, but is well under way, and its thirteen charter-members hope to make the field productive. The Branch Papers are used for instruction, and the President is most successful in giving interest to the meetings.

TOLEDO T.S. was organized in January. Its membership is twenty-six, and has had at meetings an average attendance of eighteen including visitors. A *Secret Doctrine* class, to meet each Saturday evening, has been begun with six, and on Tuesday afternoons readings from elementary Theosophical literature are given for the benefit of ladies broad in their views but not yet ready to attend Branch meetings. Every effort is made to bring the teachings within reach of all fit. The Library contains eleven books, *Siftings*, and *Path*, and is much appreciated by members.

PITTSBURG T.S. was formed last November the consolidation of two Branches, the "Vishnu" and the "Iron City". Twenty names were upon the two rolls, five members-at-large joined and six outsiders, but some losses make the present number 29. A meeting is held each Wednesday evening with attend-

dance ranging from eight to twenty. The Library contains eighteen books, but will be much increased by the Vishnu collection. Theosophical books and documents are on sale at Branch meetings. About 1200 tracts have been mailed through Pittsburg and Allegheny, and two public lectures have been given, one by Claude F. Wright and the other by Mrs. Besant. The press has given many kind notices, and one paper constantly prints articles and items. Interest seems spreading.

ATMA T.S., New Haven, Conn., held meetings irregularly, though continuously, till the middle of December, but few afterwards, owing to the absence from town of all but two members. They have now been resumed and will be maintained weekly. Besides a visit from C. F. Wright and a public lecture by Mrs. Besant, twelve lecture have been supplied from New York Headquarters, and good results have followed. New Haven contains surprisingly little interest in Theosophy, and all growth must be slow. Charter-members were nine; one resigned and two are suspended; three have joined; present number nine. There are eight books in the Library.

"H. P. B." T.S., New York, organized two years ago, has now thirty-five members and four Associates. Two members demitted this year and one died; twenty-eight Associates have been admitted, and of these eleven have become full members, two have joined other Branches, and four purpose joining soon. The Branch has held Friday evening meetings and Sunday evening lectures regularly through the year, the usual attendance at the latter being fifty, but on several occasions an extra hall was hired and attendance was 100, 200, and 300. Friday's meetings were at first public, but six months ago strangers were excluded and a syllabus adopted, which has increased attendance and wonderfully developed the Branch. A few months ago the room was opened for enquirers on Saturday evenings with some success, members being present to answer questions. A Visitors' book is kept, uptown newspapers are looked after, books are on sale at all meetings, and tracts are liberally distributed. The Library contains fourteen books and fifty magazines. Much work by members is done at Headquarters and in the League.

WESTERLY T. S. is but four months old. Membership remains the same, but a meeting is held each Friday evening and interest is growing. Branch Papers are read, and the *Key* and *Seven Principles* studied. A Library will soon be begun, and meantime the President lends his own books. Circulation of tracts and individual effort go on.

CINCINNATI T.S. Except in July and August public meetings have been regularly held on Tuesday evening, average attendance being sixty, a large number of them strangers. In November a *Secret Doctrine* class of fifty was arranged to continue for three months; in February thirteen joined the T.S., and a new class was formed of about the same size. Several public lectures were given, mainly to Free-Thinkers and Spiritualists. New members twenty-two, losses five, present number forty-seven. The Library has increased by sixty-six books and now contains 120, and a supply of small books for sale and of tracts for distribution is always on hand. Every Wednesday from 10 to 4 the ladies keep open the rooms for lending books, distributing tracts, and answering inquiries. Mrs. Besant's three lectures brought Theosophy to about 1,700 citizens, and the public reception given her by Dr. Buck was very largely attended.

RAMAYANA T.S., Chicago, has been pursuing its even way, trying to grow into the solidarity of the Universal Brotherhood. Membership varies little, but is usually fully present at the weekly meetings, and there are always visitors.

CAMBRIDGE T.S. was organized in July with five members and has won ten, all of whom are doing good work. Open weekly meetings are maintained, and in October the front parlor of a very centrally located house was rented and furnished as a lecture-room. The regular Wednesday evening meeting is held there, and it is always open as a free-reading room, where are found all the Theosophical magazines and a library of about ninety books. Attend-

ance at meetings has risen from two or three to sixteen or seventeen, and discussions are pleasant and profitable. Public interest is growing steadily and seems likely to endure. Great help has been given by Boston and Malden brethren in lectures and papers, but the greatest push forward was from Mr. Claude F. Wright's visit.

KSHANTI T.S., Victoria, B.C., was chartered in July with eleven members and has gained two. It meets weekly on Wednesday evening, and has formed a library of sixty books. Four Theosophical periodicals are taken. The Pacific Coast Lecturer gave three lectures in June, and Mr. E. B. Rambo one in January. The average attendance at meetings is about ten. Several hundred leaflets have been distributed, and the books are freely circulated, but poverty hampers.

STOCKTON T.S. has dropped four members and lost one by death. It holds a weekly meeting, and an occasional lecture duly advertized. Tracts are distributed and mailed. The Public Library contains all standard Theosophical works. Much good is done by the Unitarian minister, Rev. Bro. Copeland, who distinctly teaches Theosophy every Sunday. The Pacific Coast Lecturer has given two public lectures and one parlor talk. Generally, the Branch is becoming ever better grounded and settled in truth.

BOSTON T.S. began the year with sixty-five members; eighteen new have joined, six demitted to other branches, five resigned, and five have been suspended. Present number eighty-two. During the year forty-eight public meetings have been held, besides Class and informal meetings. On Thursday and Sunday evenings there is a public meeting, on Saturday a *Secret Doctrine* class, on Sunday afternoon a *Key to Theosophy* class. There is a syllabus of discussions for the first two. Mr. Claude F. Wright's method of work has been most productive of good, especially the Associate Membership, now numbering thirty. There is more vigor than ever in the Branch, and members are helping Cambridge, Malden, and Providence with speakers and other aid. Theosophical teaching meets with more respectful attention than heretofore. The visits and work of Mr. Wright and Mrs. Besant have infused warm energy.

ISIS LODGE has lost four members and gained two; present number eleven. It holds a weekly meeting and possesses an extensive Library. New efforts are being made for practical work and study.

LOS ANGELES T.S., having previously met in a private residence, has rented a nice hall and therein holds its Sunday evening public meetings. Therein is its Library, well-equipped and much used. Much propaganda work has been done in tract distributing and the use of clippings. In spite of additions, lossess have reduced the roll from 32 to 25, but the new material is good. Mrs. Besant's visit and the work of Miss Walsh have been of incalculable service, and the community have access in the Public Library to an unusually large amount of Theosophical literature. Our outlook is good.

SARASVATI LODGE was formed amid many discouragements and at first conducted through many struggles, but energy resulted in the establishment of a Headquarters in the heart of New Orleans and a gradual hold on the public. The weekly meetings are public, and classes for private study are forming. An active Associate expects to form a Branch in Havana, much hopeful prospect existing there. Another has established a Branch in Spain, and New Orleans Theosophists are translating documents for its benefit. We are also corresponding with and aiding a worker in the United States of Columbia, and are taking steps to give Theosophy to the colored people in our city. They can use the Headquarters whenever they form a Lodge. To the kind aid of Vyasa T.S. is due most of Sarasvati's success. It has increased its membership from five to twelve, has weekly meetings except in summer, a Library of twenty-eight books, two magazines, and many pamphlets.

SALT LAKE T.S. has added two active members and one Associate to its former roll of seven. Drawbacks have been little time and the meeting at a private house, but the latter has been relieved and new faces are constantly

seen at the public hall. Many Theosophical books have been introduced into the Public Library, a Branch Library is being attempted, a new centre has been formed at American Fork, where much interest exists, and some good article have been admitted to the papers. All church influence and most by the press is hostile, yet we push on.

DHYANA LODGE, Los Angeles, has lost eight members by demit and numbers but thirteen. The Library has thirty-five bound books, 142 magazines, and a stock of pamphlets. Much literature has been sent out as missionary work; weekly meetings are kept up; and the zeal of the members was never so strong, lessened as is the roll.

ST. PAUL T.S. was chartered in July with eight members and now has fourteen. A meeting is held each Wednesday, that on the first and third Wednesdays of each month being public and having an average attendance of sixteen. At the closed meetings the average is six.

AURORA T.S., Oakland, Calif., has lost two members by demit and one by death, gained two, and has now twenty-three. But of these six reside far away, and only nine are really active. Sunday open meetings to the number of thirty-nine have been held, and eighteen speakers or readers have taken part. Abstracts of lectures have often appeared in the press, and Mrs. Besant's visit was well reported. Her parlor talk to the branch was deeply valued, and increased demand for books, particularly her own, has followed. Distribution of tracts is made at meetings. The Library contains 150 bound books and many magazines and pamphlets; over 150 persons have used it since opened, and 380 books were taken out last year. A Sunday-school has been established, small as yet but energetic. The branch has held thirty meetings and used several methods of study. The meetings of the first and third Friday in each month are public.

ALAYA T.S., Santa Ana, Calif., was chartered in January with ten members. It meets every Sunday afternoon with an average attendance of eleven, and has studied the *Key* and the *Branch Papers*. The library has sixteen books. Theosophic tracts are kept in a wall-pocket in the Post-Office. The Branch endeavors to study, teach, and work.

MALDEN T.S., held forty-two meetings in 1892 with a total attendance of 744, gave 26 lectures, admitted five members, dropped three, and lost one by death. The membership now is fifteen. In the first three months of 1893 were held thirteen meetings with attendance of 333, and thirteen lectures, five new members joining.

PRANAVA T.S., St. Louis, Mo., has greatly improved during the year. During the past four months a public meeting has been held each Sunday with most gratifying results. The membership has doubled, and the attendance has averaged forty, four-fifths being strangers. To Miss A. M. Stabler of New York belongs the credit of initiating success last November.

BLUE MOUNTAIN T.S., Elgin, Oregon, has since its Charter in September, 1892, held nineteen public meetings with average attendance of twelve, and has given two outside lectures. The library contains nineteen books and pamphlets, and the *Path*, *Theosophist*, and *Lucifer* are taken. About 500 tracts have been distributed.

ARYAN T.S. has made memorable the year by the purchase of a Headquarters at 144 Madison Ave., of which copious description has been given in the *Path*, and by its free Sunday evening lectures maintained since last autumn. Adoption of Associate membership and of tickets for Branch meetings has proved most beneficial. Removals and two deaths have diminished the roll to seventy-six, but twenty applications are on file, so that the membership is virtually ninety-six. There are twenty-six Associates. A Syllabus of Discussions covering five months is issued twice a year, and is well maintained. The library now contains 378 books. The possession of its own Hall, seating two hundred, enables the Branch to give *conversazioni* and to maintain a Lotus Circle (Sunday-School) on Sunday afternoons, and the upper rooms give

facilities for League work. The heavy cost of the building and furniture has been mitigated by most generous gifts from Brethren all over the country, and it is hoped that all debt save the mortgage will soon be effaced. One very important function of the Branch has been the supply of lecturers to neighboring towns, a function which should steadily increase. After much delay the mural receptacle for America's share of the ashes of H. P. B. is at last in place, and the onyx casket holding its revered contents is visible through the plate-glass front.

BLAVATSKY T. S., Washington D. C., has had steady and encouraging improvement. Its room holding thirty has been changed for a hall holding 125; a public meeting is held each Sunday evening for lectures and the hall is frequently crowded; only original papers are read at the Branch meeting on Friday; a class for study meets each Sunday morning and is very successful. Mr. Pom K. Soh, a Corean, one of the most earnest members, has presented the Branch with his private library and library furniture, including the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* of twenty-four volumes and other valuable books. The Library has now ninety Theosophical books and sixty others. About 3000 tracts have been distributed during the year, and a small Tract Society has been organized by the Secretary. The roll carries thirty-five members in good standing, and there are eight Associates, the Associate system having been in use several months.

FIRST T. S. OF JAMESTOWN has held forty-one meetings, lost two members by removal and two by withdrawal, and now has twelve. The visits of Miss Hillard and Mr. Wright did great good. Meetings are now held in the parlors of the Independent Congregational Church instead of a private house, and much additional publicity has been given to Theosophy by press reports and articles. The basis of study has been the *Key* and *Esoteric Buddhism*. Many leaflets are distributed at meetings and otherwise. The library contains twenty-six books and numerous pamphlets, and books privately owned are widely circulated.

SAN FRANCISCO T.S. has had good attendance, particularly since Mrs. Besant's visit. Membership is seventeen, and attendance at Tuesday evening meetings ranges from twenty-five to thirty. The Branch has lost heavily in numbers, but works smoothly and with earnest study.

CHICAGO T. S. has lost nine members, six of them demitting to form a new Branch, and has gained thirty-two, its present membership being fifty-eight. There are 154 books in the Library, and it is rapidly increasing. Branch meeting is held every Wednesday evening, and attendance is larger than ever before. There are fourteen Associate Members, an average addition of two a week since the plan was adopted. Every Sunday evening a public lecture, well attended, is given. About May 1st the Branch will move to its new quarters, which are more than twice the size of the present. Mrs. Besant's lectures and Mr. Claude F. Wright's five weeks' work have enormously stimulated work. League No. 6, composed mostly of the Chicago Branch workers, has been very active, and has leased a room on the south side, where it has Sunday evening meetings and a daily open Reading-Room. Everything is most encouraging.

VARUNA T. S. suspended weekly meetings from July, and the loss of the Secretary and diminution of interest in the autumn threatened dissolution. In December a visit from Mr. Claude F. Wright helped a revival of life, and regular meetings have since fostered it. There are now ten members. The Library contains thirty-four books and several years' copies of the magazines.

BROOKLYN T.S. last year reported thirty-three members: it has now forty-nine besides six Associates. Two demits were granted. The library contains about two hundred books. The regular Thursday evening meetings have been well attended, each having usually two original papers followed by discussion. Two classes for study have been maintained, and one evening a week devoted to general talks, besides a monthly social gathering. There is a Lotus Circle each Sunday afternoon, and a public lecture in the evening. On the whole, the work is more intelligently and zealously carried out than ever before.

BRAHMANA T.S. has nine members and meets each Sunday evening at 421 Milwaukee St., visitors ranging from two to ten. A selected paper is always read, and the winter's study has been upon Mrs. Besant's *Seven Principles*. The Branch subscribes to *Lucifer* and the *Path*, and the Library contains four bound volumes of each and one of the *Theosophist*, a copy of the *Secret Doctrine*, and a few pamphlets and books.

AMERICAN BRANCHES THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

| PLACE. | NAME. | DATE OF CHARTER. | PRESIDENT. | SECRETARY. | ADDRESS. |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| St. Louis..... | Arjuna T.S..... | 1882 | Thomas B. Wilson..... | William F. Burrows..... | 2012 Olive street..... |
| New York..... | Aryan T.S..... | 1883 | William Q. Judge..... | Alexander Fullerton..... | 144 Madison avenue..... |
| Chicago..... | Chicago T.S..... | 1884 | George E. Wright..... | Miss Leoline Leonard..... | Flat E, 4201 Ellis avenue..... |
| Malden..... | Malden T.S..... | 1885 | Louis F. Wade..... | Mrs. Mary F. Barns..... | 44 Acorn street..... |
| San Francisco..... | Golden Gate T.S..... | " | E. B. Rambo..... | William J. Walters..... | Palace Hotel..... |
| Los Angeles..... | Los Angeles T.S..... | " | Frank Neubauer..... | Dr. G. F. Mohn..... | 453 S. Spring street..... |
| Boston..... | Boston T.S..... | 1886 | George D. Ayers..... | Robert Crosbie..... | 186 South street..... |
| Cincinnati..... | Cincinnati T.S..... | " | Dr. J. D. Buck..... | Dr. Thomas M. Stewart..... | 266 Elm street..... |
| Chicago..... | Ramayana T.S..... | 1887 | Dr. William P. Phelon..... | Miss M. E. Applegate..... | 619 W. Jackson street..... |
| Minneapolis..... | Ishwara T.S..... | " | Dr. J. W. B. LaPierre..... | James C. Slafter..... | 617 Guaranty Loan B'l'dg..... |
| Philadelphia..... | Krishna T.S..... | " | Alexander W. Goodrich..... | Edwin Schofield..... | 401 Commerce street..... |
| St. Louis..... | Pranava T.S..... | " | Seth Wheaton..... | William Throckmorton..... | 2708 Morgan street..... |
| Omaha..... | Vedanta T.S..... | 1888 | Louis A. Storch..... | Harry Merriam..... | 2919 Douglas street..... |
| Grand Island, Neb..... | Nirvana T.S..... | " | Charles Rief..... | Nathan Platt..... | 522 Kimball avenue..... |
| San Diego, Calif..... | Point Loma Lodge..... | " | Samuel Calhoun..... | Dr. Thomas Docking..... | 643 6th street..... |
| Bridgeport, Conn..... | Varuna T.S..... | " | Dr. E. A. McLellan..... | Mrs. Isabel H. Butler..... | 345 Broad street..... |
| Cleveland..... | Dharma T.S..... | " | William E. Gates..... | Mrs. Erma E. Gates..... | 235 St. Clair street..... |
| Decorah, Iowa..... | Isis Lodge..... | " | George W. Adams..... | Miss Clara Reum..... | Box 901..... |
| Milwaukee..... | Brahmana T.S..... | " | Mrs. Artie C. Stowe..... | Lucius H. Cannon..... | M. O. Dep't P. O..... |
| Brooklyn..... | Brooklyn T.S..... | 1889 | Col. Henry N. Hooper..... | Alexis C. Ferm..... | 191 Carlton avenue..... |
| Santa Cruz, Calif..... | Bandhu T.S..... | " | Dr. William W. Gamble..... | Mrs. Lizzie A. Russell..... | Box 26..... |
| Washington, D.C..... | Blavatsky T.S..... | " | J. Guilford White..... | | 919 F street, N. W..... |
| San José, Calif..... | Excelsior T.S..... | " | Miss Lizzie S. Morgan..... | | 351 N. 3d street..... |
| San Diego, Calif..... | Gautama T.S..... | " | Mrs. Anna L. Doolittle..... | | 1817 1st street..... |
| Kansas City..... | Kansas City T.S..... | " | Henry T. Lotter..... | | 306 Rialto Building..... |
| Oakland, Calif..... | Aurora Lodge..... | " | Mrs. Sarah A. Harris..... | | 630 9th street..... |
| Tacoma, Wash..... | Narada T.S..... | 1890 | Harvey A. Gibson..... | | 414 S. 7th street..... |
| Stockton, Calif..... | Stockton T.S..... | " | Frederic M. West..... | | 361 Miner Avenue..... |
| Muskegon, Mich..... | Muskegon T.S..... | " | L. B. Howard..... | | 157 Peck street..... |
| San Diego, Calif..... | Upasana T.S..... | " | Sidney Thomas..... | | 1432 Date street..... |
| Alameda, Calif..... | Triangle T.S..... | " | Mrs. Cornelia McIntire..... | | 2328 Clement Avenue..... |
| Sacramento, Calif..... | Eureka T.S..... | " | Albert Hart..... | | 922 9th street..... |

AMERICAN BRANCHES THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY—CONTINUED.

| PLACE. | NAME. | DATE OF CHARTER. | PRESIDENT. | SECRETARY. | ADDRESS. |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sioux City, Iowa | Dâna T.S. | 1890 | Dr. Grant J. Ross | Miss B. Wakefield | 805 9th street |
| Lincoln, Neb. | Amrita T.S. | " | David A. Cline | | Drawer 41 |
| Baltimore | Hermes Council T.S. | " | Charles F. Silliman | William H. Numsen | 18 Light street |
| New Orleans | Vyasa T.S. | " | Dr. C. J. Lopez | F. Carl Gessner | Box 837 |
| Kearney, Neb. | Lotus T.S. | " | Rice H. Eaton | Herman M. Draper | |
| Seattle, Wash. | Seattle T.S. No. 1 | " | Frank I. Blodgett | E. O. Schwägerl | |
| Jamestown, N.Y. | 1st T.S. of Jamestown | " | Mrs. H. E. L. Fenton | Mrs. Grace A. Barnes | 504 Bailey Building |
| Vicksburg, Miss. | Siddârtha T.S. | " | James M. Gibson | T. Dabney Marshall | 433 East 4th street |
| Pittsburg | Pittsburg T.S. | " | William C. Temple | Miss S. A. Macmillan | Box 377, Wilkinsburg, Pa. |
| Portland, Ore. | Willamette T.S. | " | A. Ross Reed | Mrs. Laura D. Durkee | 567 4th street |
| Memphis | Memphis T.S. | " | Miss Elise M. Selden | Robert B. Orrick | 287 Pontotoc street |
| Clinton, Iowa | Indra T.S. | " | Mrs. C. L. Poole | William J. Ward | 227 5th avenue |
| Fort Wayne, Ind. | Annie Besant T.S. | 1891 | Hon. Edward O'Rourke | Andrew A. Purman | |
| Toronto, Canada | Toronto T.S. | " | Albert E. S. Smythe | | 25 George street |
| Los Angeles, Calif. | Dhyana T.S. | " | Charles N. Earl | | 236 Newton street |
| Hoquiam, Wash. | Gray's Harbor T.S. | " | Dr. Owen G. Chase | | |
| New York | "H.P.B." T.S. | " | Miss Anna M. Stabler | Miss Stella W. Hart | 256 West 127th street |
| Springfield, Mass. | Springfield T.S. | " | George M. Stearns | Sidney M. Heath | 327 Main street |
| St. Paul, Minn. | St. Paul T.S. | " | Paul Henning | Miss Mary Douglass | 110 East 4th street |
| Soquel, Calif. | Pleiades Lodge T.S. | " | Charles S. Adams | Dr. William E. Davis | Soquel, Santa Cruz Co. |
| Salt Lake City, U.T. | Salt Lake T.S. | " | John Lloyd | A. M. Isaacson | Box 870 |
| San Francisco | San Francisco T.S. | " | Dr. Jerome A. Anderson | Mrs. William R. Wilson | |
| Providence, R.I. | Providence T.S. | " | Louis B. Sweet | Amos J. Johnson | 632 Post street |
| Olympia, Wash. | Olympia T.S. | " | David E. Bailey | Mrs. Vera S. Beane | 179 Althea street |
| New Haven, Conn. | Atma T.S. | 1892 | Wm. M. Townsend | Mrs. H. M. Hopkins | Olympia Hotel |
| Boise City, Idaho | Boise T.S. | " | Mrs. Mary J. Curtis | Mrs. Mary A. Whitney | 998 Grand avenue |
| Hot Springs, Ark. | Hot Springs T.S. | " | Mrs. M. A. P. McCrary | M. S. Wadham | 1402 3d street |
| New Orleans | Sarasvati Lodge T.S. | " | Mrs. Julia K. Chandler | Mrs. Eunice E. Athey | 411 Park avenue |
| Victoria, B.C. | Kshanti T.S. | " | William Berridge | Mrs. Orient S. Bearce | 147 Canal street |
| Montreal, Canada | Mount Royal T.S. | " | Louis E. Trudeau | Dr. F. Barroso | Customs |
| Cambridge, Mass. | Cambridge T.S. | " | Miss M. L. Guild | Hessay W. Graves | 2444 St. Catherine street |
| Grenada, B.W.I. | Grenada Lodge T.S. | " | | Dr. James H. Fulton | 14 Highland street |
| | | | | Miss Anna L. Dunbar | Richmond Hill House |
| | | | | Miss Eleanor J. Browne | |

AMERICAN BRANCHES THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY—CONTINUED.

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|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Elgin, Ore..... | Blue Mountain T.S..... | 1892 | Henry Hug..... | Charles H. Marsh..... | |
| Indianapolis, Ind..... | Indianapolis T.S..... | " | Judge R. Wes McBride. | Albert I. Reed..... | Care Ind. Cabinet Co. |
| Westerly, R.I..... | Westerly T.S..... | " | Dr. Lorin F. Wood..... | Addison A. Scholfield..... | 30 Main street..... |
| Santa Ana, Calif..... | Alaya T.S..... | " | Benjamin F. Grouard..... | O. Irving Clark..... | 1035 3d street..... |
| Cambridge, Mass..... | Harvard T.S..... | " | J. Austin Wilder..... | Cushing Stetson..... | 25 Holyoke street..... |
| Toledo, Ohio..... | Toledo T.S..... | " | John M. Wheeler..... | Mrs. Helen L. Wheeler..... | 215 10th street..... |
| New Britain, Conn..... | Kalayana T.S..... | 1893 | William H. Todd..... | William H. Witham..... | P. O. Box 867..... |
| Santa Rosa, Calif..... | Santa Rosa T.S..... | " | Dr. C. J. C. Wachendorf. | Charles D. Hudoff..... | |
| Dayton, Ohio..... | Dayton T.S..... | " | William Watkins..... | William W. Buckwalter..... | 735 River street..... |
| Chicago, Ill..... | Wachtmeister T.S..... | " | Jakob Bonggren..... | C. P. Wm. Westerlund..... | 35 South Clark street..... |
| Rapid City, S.D..... | Bulwer Lytton T.S..... | " | Arthur E. Wallace..... | William Norrington..... | |
| Englewood, Ill..... | Englewood T.S..... | " | Mrs. Ellen D. DeGraff..... | Mrs. Lillie A. Lockwood..... | 325 Chestnut street..... |
| Columbus, Ohio..... | Columbus T.S..... | " | Wm. B. Waggoner..... | Dr. H. L. Henderson..... | 801 Oak street..... |

NOTICE.

The General Secretary again and urgently requests that each member of the Society shall promptly notify him of any change of address. Otherwise documents go astray, complaint is made, and avoidable trouble and loss of time are occasioned to the office.

Extra copies of this Report of Proceedings will be furnished at the usual rate,—20 cents each, prepaid.

WILLIAM Q. JUDGE,
General Secretary,
144 Madison Avenue,
New York City.